

Polycarbonate Sheets (Lexan)

DT Workshop Equipment Reference — D&T / STEM resource for school workshops | Materials & Stock

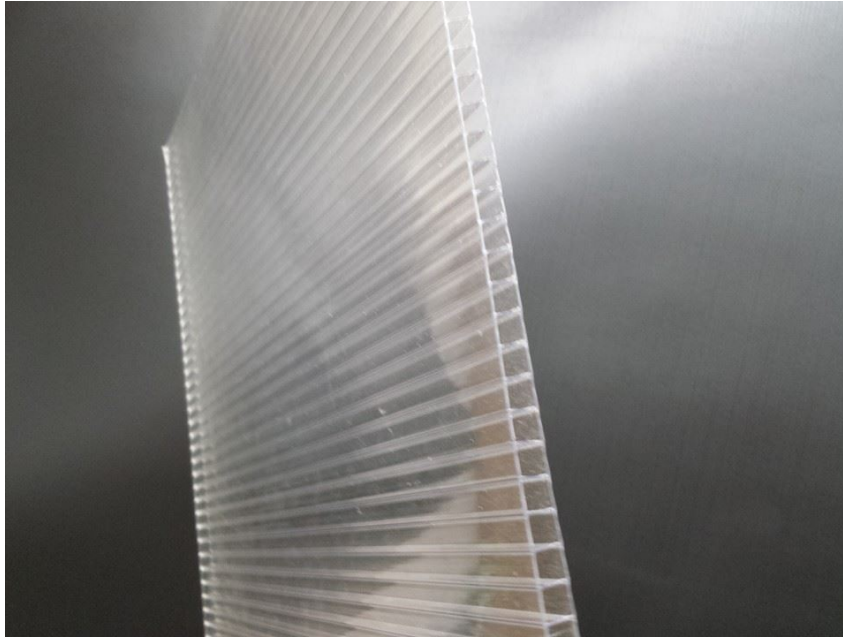


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Polycarbonate sheet (Lexan) is an impact-resistant, transparent or translucent plastic used for machine guards, windows, signs and protective covers. It is far stronger than acrylic but scratches more easily and needs the right tools.

Key Features

- Clear, tinted and opal grades
- Thicknesses 2-10 mm
- Very high impact strength
- UV-protected grades outdoors
- Saws and drills without cracking

Typical Uses in the Workshop

- Make machine guards and safety windows
- Build protective covers and shields
- Signage and display glazing
- Greenhouse and shelter panels

Safe Operation

1. Cut with fine-tooth saws and low pressure
2. Drill with sharp bits at slow speed
3. Support the sheet during cutting
4. Edge-seal exposed cores
5. Clean with soapy water only

SAFETY NOTES

- Polycarbonate burns and fumes - keep from flames
- Do not laser cut polycarbonate - toxic fumes
- Support sheets when cutting to avoid pinch
- Wear eye protection
- Store flat away from heat

Maintenance & Consumables

- Clean with a soft cloth and mild soap
- Protect the surface from scratches
- Check fasteners do not over-tighten
- Store with the film on
- Replace crazed or yellowed sheets

Specification & Buying Notes

Buy UV-protected clear polycarbonate for guards and glazing. 3-5 mm covers most needs. Quality sheet resists yellowing; cheap grades craze in sunlight.